FBIS
DAILY REPORT

M I D D L E E A S T A N D S O U T H A S I A R E V I E W

29 SEPTEMBER 1980

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Negotiation, Mediation Possibilities--In a 28 September speech to the nation carried by Baghdad radio, President Saddam Husayn declared that Iraq is prepared to negotiate "directly" with Iran, through a "third party" or through "any international quarter we respect and trust." Husayn affirmed that his country has adopted "positive and responsible stands" toward all the peace initiatives put forward by "Islamic and friendly" states and regional organizations and will exert every effort to bring about their success. He went on to say, however, that Iraq has rejected "so-called mediation" attempts by some "Arab officials," taking the position that "no Arab can adopt the stand of mediator" when Arab sovereignty is at stake and Arab blood is being shed. The Iraqi president stated that in such a situation, if an Arab does not "support his brother in the battle," he should at least keep "silent."

Declaring that Iraq is imposing no "illegitimate terms" on Iran and harbors no "ambitions," Husayn reiterated the Iraqi conditions for negotiation first announced by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz in a 25 September Paris press conference, reported by INA, and later restated by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi in a press statement carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses. He said Iran must adhere to good-neighbor relations, abandon its "trends of racism," refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of other countries in the region and return "every inch" of Arab territory. He added that Iran must return the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands and Abu Musa Island. Husayn warned that Iraq will continue to deal "deterrent and firm strikes" against Iran if it continues the fighting. He said that Iraq's aim is to reach a formula on which to base the relationship between Iraq and the Arab nation, on the one hand, and Iran, on the other, but that if Iran rejects his "sincere appeal for a cease-fire," the Iranian people should take the initiative to "rid" themselves of the ruling "clique." If they do this, Husayn promised, Iraq will help them overcome the "tragedies" that have befallen them since the Khomeyni regime came to power.

In a 27 September telephone conversation with President Ziaul Haq, reported by INA, Saddam Husayn "welcomed" the Pakistani leader's "visit to Iraq to use his good offices to solve the existing conflict between Iraq and Iran through peaceful means." According to Karachi radio, Haq said before departing for Tehran and Baghdad that his mission is only to "ascertain facts." Iranian media gave no indication that he and Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti tried or were able to do any more than this in their 27-28 September visit to Tehran. In a press conference after discussions with the two visitors, reported by Tehran radio, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said Iran will continue to fight "until the expulsion of the last aggressor."

Before Haq's arrival, Iranian leaders had categorically rejected mediation. Bani-Sadr, in an interview after his 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni, reported by Tehran radio and PARS, stated that Iran "is not ready for any mediation or reconciliation because reconciliation between right and wrong is senseless." He welcomed the visit of President Haq only insofar as it represented a "mark of respect" for the Iranian Armed Forces and people in their resistance against the Iraqis. In an earlier statement carried by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr said that there is "no need for mediation" and that those who come to Tehran with that in mind would be better advised to go to Baghdad and "force some sanity" on the Saddam Husayn government. Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i supported Bani-Sadr's stand on mediation, saying in interviews with Tehran Radio that Iran is not prepared to "utter a word about negotiations" and should not accept "mediation, reconciliation, discussion or anything."

Military Situation--An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio, announced that Iraqi forces captured Ahvaz on 27 September and said that by doing so the military "achieved the vital objectives designated by the leadership." The communique stated that it is now necessary to "consolidate this victory" and destroy the "remnants" of the Iranian Army. However, Tehran radio's Arabic service the next morning denied that Ahvaz had fallen, and Ahvaz radio was monitored into the evening of 28 September carrying local military news reports and asking citizens to avoid spreading rumors during these "sensitive times." Baghdad radio, commenting on the continued Ahvaz transmissions, declared them fake, claiming that Tehran radio was broadcasting programming in the name of Ahvaz radio. Baghdad said that this ploy was obvious because the transmissions that purported to be from Ahvaz radio carried only music and programming that could be relayed by Tehran radio through small transmitters outside of Ahvaz. However, since the alleged fall of Ahvaz, the city's radio has been monitored on its normal frequency carrying unique programming as well as relays from Tehran radio. Rejecting Baghdad's claim on the fall of Ahvaz, Tehran radio announced that the oil minister visited Ahvaz on 28 September, and it also carried a speech delivered in the city by Ayatollah Khamene'i that same day. AFP reported that several hundred Soviet citizens have been evacuated from Ahvaz.

A 28 September Iranian Joint Staff statement, carried by Tehran radio, once again denied that Khorramshahr has fallen to the Iraqis, who claim to have taken the city on 25 September. Abadan radio on 28 September carried announcements issued by the Khorramshahr City Council, the latest requesting food vendors to open their stores.

Iran has continued to warn neighboring states not to aid Iraq. According to Tehran radio, Iranian envoys have told Persian Gulf states that any military aid to Iraq will be considered an "act of war" against Iran. An Iranian Joint Staff statement, carried by Tehran radio, reiterated earlier warnings to "certain shaykhdoms in the southern part of the Persian Gulf" that so long as they give "sanctuary" to and help "mobilize" the Iraqi forces, Iran will consider it its "legitimate right" to "deal with these shaykhdoms in any way it considers appropriate." In a press conference in Amman, carried by Amman television, Tariq 'Aziz warned that if Iran expanded the conflict to "other countries," Iraq would adopt an "appropriate position." 'Aziz also stated that Iraq "categorically rejects any kind of foreign intervention" in the gulf. Saddam Husayn reiterated these latter comments in his 28 September address to the nation, saying: "We warn any foreign power that tries to exploit the situation in order to interfere in the region's affairs that the countries of the region are capable of protecting the safety of the region, guaranteeing freedom of shipping in it and ensuring the legitimate rights of all the countries of the world." Monitored Iraqi and Iranian media have made no mention of President Carter's proposal to convene a meeting of Western industrial powers to discuss ways to ensure the flow of oil through the Persian Gulf.

Iraqi Oil Exports--According to AFP, Iraq has "suspended all crude oil exports" because of "extensive damage" to its oil installations. The news agency, citing the weekly MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY, said that Iraq has informed the oil companies of a "complete loss of production" and that deliveries will be stopped "until further notice." Statements issued by the Iranian Joint Staff on 27 and 28 September, carried by Tehran radio, reported continued bombing of the Kirkuk oil installations, claiming 85 percent destruction. The Turkish ANATOLIA news agency reported that the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik oil pipeline was sabotaged on the night of 26-27 September but that damage was "minimized" and the line would be reopened within 2 days. According to AFP, a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that Iranian aircraft had bombed the pipeline.

The Damascus paper ATH-THAWRAH reported that on 25 September Syria "immediately and unconditionally" agreed to an Iraqi request to pump oil through Syrian pipelines to the Lebanese port of Tripoli. The paper also said that the flow of Iraqi oil to Baniyas has been stopped due to the Iranian shelling of Iraqi oil installations and that its resumption depends upon Iraq's efforts to repair the damaged oil works. The oil flow to both Baniyas and Tripoli is from Kirkuk.

Iranian Information Efforts--In an interview carried by Tehran Radio, President Bani-Sadr said Iran's international position has been weakened because of its poor efforts in the sphere of "foreign propaganda" which have inhibited the "exportation of our revolution" and brought about a situation in which "you are subjected to aggression and nobody in the world bothers to ask why this country has been attacked." He said that if Iran had made greater efforts in this regard, it would not have been so easy for Iraq to attack. He noted that Saddam Husayn had allowed 300 reporters into Iraq while in Iran even telex services had been out until recently. He urged Iran to open its borders to "tell the world the realities" and not to fear the dissemination of lies, saying that most correspondents will report the truth.

In a related development, Tehran radio carried an announcement issued by Ayatollah Khomeyni appointing 'Abdollah Nuri as head of the Information and News Department of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Khomeyni said in the announcement that under the current "extraordinary conditions" Nuri will be charged with improving coordination of internal and external news and that all "information organs are dutybound" to give him the "necessary cooperation with maximum effort." Khomeyni also gave Nuri the power to expel from the country anybody acting contrary to the nation's interests and, on the other hand, to "attract individuals for cooperation."

In a similar announcement broadcast over Tehran radio, Ayatollah Khomeyni appointed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami director of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Khomeyni noted the "emergency situation" facing the country and told Mohtashami to "dismiss anyone you see fit and recruit loyal individuals."

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KUWAIT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DISCUSSES IRAQI-IRANIAN CONFLICT

LD281630 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1212 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Sep (KUNA)--The Council of Ministers today discussed the fighting between Iran and Iraq. The minister of state for cabinet affairs, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, said that the council is acquainted with the contacts between his excellency the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah and a number of Arab leaders concerning the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. He added that the council discussed in detail the development of battles between the two neighboring gulf states and also Arab and Islamic efforts being made to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. Without going into details he said that the council reviewed the political repercussions of the conflict and in this context heard a report by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

HOSPITALS, MEDICAL SERVICES PLACED AT IRAQ'S DISPOSAL

NC261151 Paris AFP in English 1131 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Sep (AFP)--Kuwait has put all its hospitals and medical services at Iraq's disposal, a government spokesman said today. The nation's health services have been put on alert and all leave has been cancelled, the spokesman added.

SAUDI ARABIA

CROWN PRINCE REPORTEDLY OFFERS TO MEDIATE CONFLICT

NC260925 Paris AFP in English 0912 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Beirut, 26 Sep (AFP)--Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz offered to act as mediator in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, but Iran rejected the offer, an Arab diplomatic source said here.

Quoted in the Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR, the source said the prince made the suggestion Wednesday to Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, offering to go personally to Tehran to discuss the issue.

Mr Bani-Sadr asked for time to consider, but after meeting with his council of ministers, turned down the Saudi offer because "Iran is against all mediation while Iraqi forces occupy any of its territory."

According to sources in New York quoted by another Lebanese newspaper, a tripartite Islamic Conference delegation will go to Baghdad and Tehran in the immediate future to seek a cease-fire. The three members of the delegation will be Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, an Arab chief of state and an African leader, according to the newspaper.

Official Denial

LD281200 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1050 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] At-Ta'if, 28 Sep (SPA)--An official source has denied a report by the Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR that His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, had contacts with Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in which he offered the Kingdom's mediation to end the Iranian-Iraqi dispute.

The source has stated this report is fabricated from its foundations, and that no contacts in this matter took place. Also, AS-SAFIR is known as a source for tendentious fabrications and rumors.

The source stressed that the Kingdom is concerned about ending the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq and that it has exercised its constructive role in this connection, within the framework of the Islamic Conference and the meeting of the foreign ministers of Islamic countries which was held in New York. It resulted in good offices which are to be carried out by Pakistani President Ziaul Haq and Habib Chatti, general secretary of the Islamic Conference--good offices which the [word indistinct] hopes will be successful in healing the split and in restoring peace and fraternity between the two Muslim countries.

SAUDI ARABIA REPORTEDLY INCREASING TROOPS ALONG GULF COAST

NC261311 Paris AFP in English 1302 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Sep (AFP)--Saudi Arabia has boosted its military presence along its coastline with the gulf, the Kuwaiti daily paper AL-ANBA' reported today. The paper, which did not disclose its sources, said more troops had been sent to the zone, fresh antiaircraft batteries installed and Saudi Arabia's amphibious units had been increased.

YAR

PDRY PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

JN261428 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, arrived in San'a' this morning to take part in the celebrations in both parts of Yemen of the 18th anniversary of the 26 September revolution. He was received at the airport by brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: I am pleased to arrive in San'a', birthplace of the 26 September revolution, to take part with our people in celebrating the 18th anniversary of the revolution which destroyed the shackles of oppression and tyranny and set our Yemeni people on the path of building the new Yemeni society [words indistinct] affirms the deep-rooted ties of destiny between our people in the two parts of Yemen. These ties have been embodied in the spirit of the September and October revolutions in our homeland.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad added: I am confident that our people who were able to achieve victories and great revolutionary gains through the unity of their national forces under the banners of the Yemeni revolution, will also continue the struggle until the people and territory of Yemen are united as a prelude to comprehensive and democratic Arab unity.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad concluded: Our presence in San'a', historical capital of Yemen and cradle of the 26 September revolution, will enable us to resume brotherly meetings with our brother in the northern part of the homeland headed by brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih so as to strengthen the joint brotherly efforts on the way to unity and to put into effect what has been agreed upon during our previous meetings.

Military Parade

LD261620 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Excerpt] The Yemen Arabic Republic today celebrated the 18th anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution. Brother Col 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces; Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the [Yemen Socialist Party] Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland; Brothers Qadi 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president of the republic and speaker of the people's constituent assembly; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, chairman of the Council of Ministers; senior civilian and military officials; brotherly and friendly delegations; members of the diplomatic corps accredited in San'a'; and large crowds of citizens, who flocked to the parade grounds from early morning, witnessed this morning's big military parade in the south of the capital on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution.

Lt Col 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Barati, the chief of general staff, made a speech on behalf of the armed forces and the security forces. At the beginning of the speech he welcomed the two brothers, President 'Ali Abdallah Salih and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the guests of the republic and all those present. He congratulated the leader president and the masses of our people on this beloved anniversary. In his speech he touched on the great sacrifice made by our armed forces and security forces since the dawn of the revolution in order that our people may live a free and decent life. He affirmed their loyalty and their promise to all the sons of our people and their righteous martyrs to continue preserving the gains of the revolution and the republic so as to fulfill all the principles and goals.

Subsequently the commander of the column came forward and asked the leader president for permission to begin the parade, which was headed by groups of youths of the second camp and sports clubs, bearing flags. They were followed by a display by cadets of the military and police colleges. Then the military parade began with units of our land, naval, air and security forces, while air force formations staged a splendid air show. The parade was concluded by the republican anthem. The two brothers, Col 'Ali Abdallah Salih and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, left the parade ground amid cheers from the masses for the revolution, the two leaders and Yemeni unity. The motorcade of the leader president, Col 'Ali Abdallah Salih, earlier this morning drove to the cemeteries of the Yemeni and Egyptian martyrs, where he laid floral tributes at two monuments.

Departure Statement

JN271419 Sana'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, left Sana'a' at 1500 today after participating in the celebrations of the 18th anniversary of the 26 September revolution. In a predeparture statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: I consider this visit to San'a' a continuation of my fraternal visits to the northern part of the homeland and the fraternal contacts with brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces. We have not come to San'a' to offer our congratulations. We have come to receive the fraternal and friendly delegations which have come to the historic capital of Yemen. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that the meetings which he held with brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and with the rest of the YAR officials have been successful and in the interest of our people in the north and in the south. He said that the meetings are considered a confirmation of the continued efforts to achieve the unity of the Yemeni people and land. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, held a meeting in the presidential palace at 1100 this morning to resume the discussions which they began yesterday.

'ALI SAYS DELEGATION HEADS TO MEET IN NEW YORK 15 OCT

NC272035 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali made a statement to the radio correspondent in which he said that during the Egyptian-U.S. talks agreement was reached to hold a meeting for the heads of the Egyptian, U.S. and Israeli delegations in New York on 15 October in order to prepare for the tripartite summit conference. He said that the conference will discuss the problems that are before the autonomy negotiations.

The deputy prime minister said that he had meetings with U.S. congressmen during which the autonomy negotiations were discussed and the Egyptian position was explained. Furthermore, the current Iraqi-Iranian conflict, its effect on the area and the U.S. aid to Egypt were also discussed. His excellency added that the congressmen expressed support for the line Egypt is following.

On Egypt's stand on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt always follows the legal line and is against any bloody conflict. Egypt's policy, 'Ali added, is built on the basis of resorting to a peaceful solution for resolving conflicts between states.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he will deliver Egypt's address at the UN General Assembly on Monday and that in this address he will define Egypt's stand on the Middle East problem and affirm Egypt's call for the Middle Eastern area to be free from nuclear weapons.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali concluded his statement by saying that he met with the French foreign minister today and that their discussion centered on the developments of the situation in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister will meet again with Waldheim on Wednesday to complete their discussion of international questions.

U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN CAIRO 28 SEP

NC281242 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Cairo, 28 Sep (MENA)--U.S. Under Secretary for Defense Robert Komer arrived in Cairo today on a visit of several days to Egypt during which he will hold talks on boosting military cooperation between Egypt and the United States.

During his visit the U.S. official will meet with Minister of Defense and Military Production Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi and Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Muhammad Abu Ghazalah.

MENA REPORTS U.S. FIGHTER PLANE CAN BE ASSEMBLED IN EGYPT

NC270807 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0642 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)--The U.S. aircraft industry technical committee now on a visit to Cairo has visited the military industry plant. Afterward, the committee affirmed that the American EF Tiger II [designation as received] fighter plane can be assembled by the military industry plant.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that the American committee wil' prepare a report on the cost of building these planes. The newspaper notes that the committee has discussed this matter with senior Egyptian officials.

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESS TO NATION ON CONFLICT WITH IRAN

JN282231 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2055 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Address to the nation by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn--Live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great people. O masses of the glorious Arab nation. O valiant army. I convey to you greetings of honor, sincerity and honesty. Greetings of the national and pan-Arab struggle.

I spoke at the National Assembly on the 17th and explained to you the decision of the leadership and the people to restore our rights and absolute sovereignty over our lands and waters. In our speech, in which we announced the abrogation of the 1975 agreement for the legitimate and practical reasons we explained then, we called on the rulers in Iran to respond to the voice of right and logic that calls for maintaining good-neighbor relations of with Iraq and the Arab nation and for relinquishing every inch they usurped from the lands of Iraq and the Arab nation. We stressed to the whole world that Iraq has no designs on the Iranian territories and that we do not at all intend to launch war against Iran or expand the circle of struggle with it outside of defending our rights and sovereignty.

We also stressed that Iraq, which has demonstrated through its relations with the entire world that it is honorably committed to all its pledges, has also demonstrated that it cannot accept any form of aggression and violation of sovereignty and dignity and that the Iraqi people and army are fully ready to wage all valiant battles regardless of dear sacrifices for the sake of safeguarding honor and sovereignty. We also told the Iranian authorities that Iraq had taken its historic decision to restore its full sovereignty over its territory and waters and that it would act with strength and capability against anyone who challenges this legitimate decision. However, those ruling Iran did not respond to these calls; nor did they deal with the situation in a spirit of someone who cares to avoid bloodshed and achieve a just and honorable solution for the two sides. They behaved in a manner full of conceit, rancor, aggression and lack of responsibility toward their peoples and toward the region's security and safety. They interpreted our positive and tolerant calls as weakness or fear of confrontation, not as evidence of strength, capability, a sense of responsibility and desire to maintain peace.

Instead of seeking peaceful solutions those holding sway over the Iranian peoples confronted us with their insistence on denying our rights by means of war and aggression. With their own wicked will, they thus pushed the Iranian Army toward a catastrophe.

When the competent Iraqi authorities began to apply the measures of sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab--measures of a completely peaceful nature--the Iranian authorities opened fire on the Iraqi and foreign ships passing through it. They also directly attacked our civilian targets and economic installations in the Shatt al-'Arab and Basra city regions. This act meant complete suspension of international navigation in Shatt al-'Arab and the cutting off of the vital vein of Iraq's economy. Iran has shores along the gulf extending for hundreds of kilometers, while Iraq has only limited outlets; most important of which is Shatt al-'Arab.

This decision by the Iranian authorities meant war. Iran followed this up by closing the airspace between Iran and the states in the region. This behavior clearly meant preparation for launching a war. They began with an airstrike against Iraq. Their massing of troops on the front and the information we received before and during the battles absolutely confirmed that the Iranian authorities had intended to launch war against Iraq.

Brothers, Iraq acts with a sense of responsibility because it believes in honorable and just principles and is careful to prevent bloodshed and safeguard security and stability in this region because of its vital importance to the world's legitimate and vital interests. However, Iraq could never remain silent in the face of the repeated aggression of the Iranian authorities, which are completely devoid of any sense of responsibility. The Iranian authorities are thirsty for destruction, sabotage and the shedding of blood. They are not interested in their country's security, the fate of their peoples, the security and stability of the region or the world's legitimate interests.

To defend Iraq's honor, sovereignty and vital interest, we had to take the necessary measures to deter the enemies, who are deeply immersed in ignorance, vanity and black rancor. We had to unsheathe the Iraq sword and the Arab sword. We had to unsheathe the swords of 'Ali, Khalid, Sa'd and Al-Qa'qa' [Muslim leaders who fought the Romans and the Persians in early Islam] in order to strike this tyrannical clique and teach it a new historical lesson like that of the glorious Al-Qadisiyah battle which destroyed Khosraw's, arrogance, raised the banners of Islam and eliminated infidelity, ignorance and aggression in the region. This was also done by our brave army in Zayn al-Qaws and Sayf Sa'd.

We never took the enemy by surprise although surprise in war is legitimate in countering aggression. We acted with high morals and strict responsibility. We warned and alerted them before striking. When our warning and alarms passed in vain, we ordered our brave army to confront this clique, heir of Khosraw and 20th century magians, and to defeat them completely. This is what your armed forced did.

O glorious Iraqis, O brave Arabs everywhere. Our forces confronted the enemy in the same way as did Zulfiqar, the sword of our master 'Ali Ibn Abi Talib, when it was drawn against the infidels during the glorious battles of Islam. Within a few hours of the beginning of the battle on land, sea and air, the Iraqi sword was advancing with the aid of the nation's spirit, history and great mission. Our fighting was reminiscent of the battles of Badr, Al-Qadisiyah, Al-Yarmuk and Hittin. Our triumphant air force raided the bases of the magian clique and inflicted on them heavy losses. On sea our forces confronted the enemy naval forces, which had been the pride of the Persians and constituted their so-called long arms, paralyzed them and inflicted on them ignominious defeats. On land our brave forces of different arms, advanced to their well-defined targets. During the past few days and since the morning of Monday, 22 September, up to this day, our forces have accomplished their tasks with competence, bravery, speed and capability. Our forces now are standing on the targets assigned them: Qasr-e Shirin, Mehran and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. Our forces are standing on Ahvaz territory, in the cities of Al-Muhammarah and Dezful and a number of other cities on the war fronts.

Dear brothers, in His book, Almighty God has taught us the meaning of honor, manliness and forgiveness. One of the most prominent characteristics of the Arabs is to forgive when they can. In His holy Koran, Almighty God has said: But if the enemy is inclined towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace. We have been brought up to follow this within the principles of our struggling party and of the great July revolution. The oppressive clique ruling in Tehran is not inclined toward peace. It is still beating the worn drums of war. But we are the grandsons of 'Ali and Al-Husayn, Khalid and Sa'd. We prove to them, as we did 14 centuries ago, that we do not seek war. We are advocates of rights and owners of a message.

Therefore dear brothers, out of the great victory over the aggressive clique in Tehran, the grandsons of Khosrow and Rustam, we announce before you and the entire world that Iraq is ready to stop the fighting if the other side responds to this sincere appeal on the basis of acknowledging our legitimate rights. We are also ready to negotiate with the Iranian side directly, or through a third party, or through any international quarter or organization we respect and trust in order to reach a just and honorable solution guaranteeing our rights and sovereignty.

We do not belong to those who are tempted by power, who become irrational with victory and impose illegitimate terms on others, even if they are the aggressors and harbor evil intentions. We do not impose illegitimate terms. We have no ambitions. We reiterate clear and noble principles--the principles of right, goodness and peace--before the Iranian people, the region's countries, the Arab nation and the entire world.

What we demand is that the Iranian Government openly, legally and indeed recognize the historical and legitimate right of Iraq over its land and waters. We demand that Iran adhere to good neighbor relations; abandon its trends of racism, aggression and expansion; abandon its evil attempts to interfere in the domestic affairs of the region's countries; and return every inch it has usurped from the homeland. Iran has to consider its rights and the rights of the Arabs and of the Iraqis on this basis. It must respect international laws, norms and charters.

We, as we said in the past, do not consider Iran or the Iranian people as enemies of Iraq and of the Arab nation. We have always wanted to be friends and neighbors who live in peace. But the Iranian people have not been successful up to now in having a rational and sincere government which would understand this good trend. The Iranian people have been burdened with rulers whose only interest has been expansion, aggression, threat and belligerency.

We hope that the Iranians will overcome the misfortune which has befallen them as a result of the domination of this evil clique which has brought catastrophe to Iran and the Iranian Army. We also hope that conditions will prevail that we may live with the Iranian people under the umbrella of friendship, goodneighborliness and mutual respect.

These are the principles we want to establish. We call for peace and an end to bloodshed.

We call on the Iranian Government to give up its occupation of the three Arab islands--Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb--in the Arab Gulf--the islands which were occupied by the shah by force and which are still being occupied by the ruling clique. While asserting, brothers, our readiness to halt all forms of war operations if the other side honors this, and with this understanding, we warn that our victorious valiant forces from a position of strength, will respond by dealing deterrent and firm strikes against any attempt the Iranian authorities might carry out to continue the aggression and the war operations.

We would like to assure the Iranian peoples that we had no intention of encroaching upon their rights, laying claims on their territories or humiliating them and the Iranian Army. We were compelled to fight by the behavior of the oppressive clique dominating Iran. We willingly accepted the challenge in defense of our sovereignty, rights and the dignity of our people as well as the usurped rights of our nation.

Our aim was to reach a formula concerning the relationship between Iraq and the Arab nation, on the one hand, and Iran on the other, guaranteeing each one his rights, sovereignty, security and stability.

The pagan, oppressive and conceited clique of heretics dominating the Iranian peoples are the ones responsible for the war. They are the ones to involve the Iranian peoples and army in this losing battle. If this clique, which has lost its senses, is blinded by conceit and fears the fate of its shaky government, rejects our sincere appeal for cease-fire, this would clearly show once again that it is jeopardizing Iran's security and sovereignty and the rights of its peoples, disavowing the legitimate rights of Iraq and the Arab nation and refusing to coexist with them on the basis of the honorable principles we mentioned, as it has done in the recent past.

In such a situation it behooves the Iranian peoples to assume their responsibility and take the initiative to get rid of this clique. Iraq--people and leadership--places its hand in their hands to help them overcome the tragedies that befell them and the evils which have ruined their life so they can live a free respectable life with their neighbors.

We proudly greet the Arab people in Arabistan, the Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan, our friends among the peace-loving and good-willed Persians and all the friendly Iranian peoples.

Brothers, our region has lived for many years under the fear of threats, aggression, instability, crises and conflagrations. The former Iranian regime played a serious hostile role in the region. It chose for itself, with the encouragement of imperialism and world Zionism, the role of the alleged policeman of the gulf. It built huge military forces which were far beyond Iran's ability and normal national needs.

The former regime planted its agents in the region and dealt with it haughtily and aggressively. It also used force against Iraq and the Arab nation. Thus, it occupied the three Arab islands in the gulf to control shipping in it and to use them in the service of its aggressive designs and imperialist plans. We resisted these policies and stands firmly and courageously.

We rejected this method of conducting the region's affairs and called for establishing the principle of the region's complete independence, adhering to the spirit of cooperation among the countries of the region and abandoning all ambitions and roles determined by imperialist circles.

When the new regime came to power, we had the hope that it would relinquish these aggressive policies and evil stands; but shortly after it assumed power, this regime started to act like the previous regime, though it is clothing this policy with false claims. Some hailed it for either exploitative or tactical reasons to achieve some benefits that are not in harmony with the supreme pan-Arab interests.

The new rulers in Iran clung to the shah's claims about the Persianism of the gulf and clung to his occupation of the three islands. Nay, they started to utter statements claiming that Iraq and other parts of the area are Persian. They renewed the shah's expansionist claims in Bahrain. They started to communicate with the Persian communities in the Arab Gulf states in order to create confusion and foment trouble in these states and to prepare for swallowing them one by one.

The area has lived for several years under this atmosphere, which was exploited by the ambitious international forces for the sake of hinting at intervening in the area's affairs, setting up military bases and controlling its wealth in the service of their aggressive and exploitative interests.

The previous and present Iranian regimes shoulder the basic responsibility for creating these circumstances, which threatened the independence and sovereignty of the area's states as well as security and stability in these states. These circumstances also threatened the legitimate international interests and opened the doors to the colonialist interventions.

The battle we waged against the Iranian regime, although basically waged in defense of the honor and sovereignty of our country as well as in defense of its inalienable historical rights and vital legitimate interests, was, at the same time, decisive for the sake of the gulf's Arabism, for detering the Persian expansionist designs and for the sake of the bulf's full independence far from the interventions of international forces. It was a battle for the sake of guaranteeing security and stability in the gulf and for paving the way for a natural development in accordance with the free choice of the area's sons far from any form of foreign interventions and foreign designs.

We call on the fraternal Arab states in the area to exploit victory in the battle Iraq has waged on behalf of the Arab nation and the Arab Gulf's sons for the sake of consolidating the area's independence, fending off any kind of foreign influence and ending foreign infiltration, which aimed at changing the area's pan-Arab identity.

We also call on them to adopt stands of solidarity and joint action in accordance with the pan-Arab principles we had defined in our national declaration of February 1980. These principles are the real guarantee for sovereignty and security in this area and in the entire Arab homeland. Other policies and attempts are merely a cover for harming the independence of the Arab Gulf states and for placing its entrances and waterways in the service of imperialism and evil forces.

We warn any foreign power which tries to exploit the situation in order to interfere in the region's affairs that the countries of the region are capable of protecting the safety of the region; guaranteeing freedom of shipping in it, and ensuring the legitimate rights of all the countries of the world. We hope that the Iranian regime will benefit from this lesson and will honorably cooperate with the region's countries in accordance with this honorable independent trend. It will then guarantee for Iran its legitimate interests, consolidate its security and stability and keep it away from the policies of aggression and adventures, which have brought it only losses and catastrophes.

Brothers: When the battle started between us and the Iranian regime, it was natural that several world states became worried about the possible development of this struggle. We contacted many friendly states to explain our position and define our aims in this battle. We stressed to them our good intentions and our rejection of the policy of force and designs on the territories of others. The greater part of the international community showed understanding of our just and balanced stand. We appreciate this responsible stand of theirs. We also commend the initiatives taken by Islamic and friendly states as well as regional organizations which called for stopping the fight and for resorting to dialogue and negotiations to solve the problems and settle the dispute on just bases. We have adopted positive and responsible stands toward all these initiatives. We stress that Iraq will exert every effort to render these initiatives successful and reach a peaceful settlement of the struggle onthe basis of the just principles we pointed out.

Brethren, O masses of the glorious Arab nation: When Iraq waged this honorable and valiant battle, it had a strong belief that it was defending the Arab nation's sovereignty, honor and rights. Iraq's lands and waters are part of the Arab sovereignty and Arab honor. Iraq is the eastern flank of the Arab homeland. He who threatens Iraq's sovereignty threatens the entire Arab sovereignty. He who usurps part of the Arab homeland in its eastern or western section, in its center or in any of its parts is a foe that must be deterred; and the territory must be liberated from his grasp. We do not distinguish between one usurper and another.

Some quarters, who have sick hearts, and who have moved away from the pan-Arab values, have coexisted with humiliation and opportunism, lived in corrupt environments and turned sovereignty and supreme pan-Arab interests into card games, whether in their cheap discussions within their countries or in achieving trivial benefits. These quarters have tried to distort Iraq's stand in this battle and tried to equate the attacked Arabs with the aggressor foreigner under false interpretations and justifications totally unrelated to pan-Arab values. We tell them: You do not represent the Arab nation or its glorious history and its great will to be liberated. You also do not represent this nation's honor, glory and pride. You do not represent the Arab masses, for the Arab masses are those who are right, honorable and manly, not opportunists, cowards and traffickers in the nation's interests.

Some official Arab brothers adopted an honorable pan-Arab stand supporting us, but some others adopted disgraceful stands and some preferred to keep silent. We greatly appreciate with pride the stands of those who have supported their brothers in the battle of honor and liberation. We will not attack those who have adopted stands of silence. We leave the Arab masses in these countries to assess their stands. Also, we would like to announce before you, and before the Arab nation, that we have turned down some attempts carried out by some Arab officials for so-called mediation between Iran and us. We did not do so because we do not respect them or do not appreciate them. We also did not reject this out of conceit, but because we believe that when the sovereignty of any Arab state is violated by a foreigner, no matter who he is, and when Arab blood is shed in defense of Arab honor and sovereignty, no Arab can adopt the stand of a mediator. If he does not support his brother in the battle, he should keep silent; that is the least he can do.

Brothers: In my speech on 17 September, I told you and the honorable people of the Arab nation that the overt and covert main reserve, by means of which we upset the deceitful designs of the agents in Iran and by means of which we will face all hostile imperialist, Zionist and racist plots, is the great Iraqi people with their serious spirit, their boundless readiness to sacrifice and offer, their pan-Arab commitment to their legitimate rights and their dedication to their great historical heritage, to the history of the glorious Arab nation and to the feats of great Iraq--the valiant Iraqi Army. The Iraqi Army emanated from this spirit and is implementing the revolution's principles. The bright history of the Arab nation and the glorious history of Iraq are represented in our army's life and battles.

The overt and covert reserve is you and all the honorable and valiant Iraqi officers and soldiers in our army as well as the sons of our people--men and women, elderly and children. It is the honorable spirit of the Arabs who are struggling against aggression, usurpation, exploitation and subservience and who refuse to succumb to the detestable Persian occupation, as they are rejecting and struggling with all strength and courage against the treacherous Zionist occupation of Palestine and the other Arab territories.

Indeed brothers: This is the reserve with which we faced the enemies. It was a reserve full of energy and great capabilities. During the glorious heroic epics our valiant fighters on land, in the air and at sea proved indeed they are the valiant sons of Iraq and sons of the Arab nation. They confirmed that they are the descendants of those great people who wiped out atheism and raised high the flag of mission. They are the grandsons of 'Ali, 'Umar, Husayn, Khalid, Sa'd and Al-Qa'qa. Our brave men, the sons of the armed forces, have fought bravely and confirmed with effectiveness and capability that they are qualified to safeguard the honor of arms and the flag of victory. They have so much pride that the Zionist enemy could not hide his fear and confusion from their strength and capability. The Zionist enemy started to utter cries of warning and fear. The Zionist enemy announced that he extends his hand to the magian Persian enemy to save him from the defeat that has befallen him.

Despite the vicious Zionist enemy's acts and his attempts to exploit the situation, strong and dear Iraq and its valiant army have achieved a tremendous victory and will achieve the crucial victory, God willing.

Brothers: This is a great honor for the Iraqi Army, the army we have prepared, and are still preparing with God's help, to liberate Palestine. Those who fought in Zayn al-Qaws, Safy Sa'd, Al-Muhammarah and Ahvaz were asphalting the road to Jerusalem, Ramallah, Hebron and Jaffa. I implore God to grant you success, comrades, in ideology and arms.

Brave officers and soldiers: May God bless your capabilities, and may God grant mercy upon the martyrs who fell in the battle of honor and dignity. They are as God almighty said in his book: Think not of those who are slain in God's way as dead. Nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the presence of their Lord.

Our people will remember them with pride and admiration. They will turn their bright names into gems and laurels of victory. Their innocent blood will constitute a new dawn for the nation that will light its road to liberation of Palestine and all the occupied Arab territories.

Greetings to the lions of the land, greetings to the air eagles and greetings to the brave naval men. Thanks to them. Thanks to you brothers. You have raised high the head of your country and that of your nation. You have fulfilled your promise and honored the nation's trust.

I am sure that the spirit of 'Ali ibn Abi Talib, Al-Faruq, Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqas and Al-Qa'qa' has been with you. It hovered over the battlefield and was proud of the work of the grandsons in defense of good and right. It blessed your victories and called on its God almighty to realize victory for you.

During the battle, the masses of our people showed that they were worthy of the trust and of shouldering immense responsibilities with competence, ability and splendid self-discipline. They continued their serious efforts to bear the responsibility and to carry out their duties.

Thanks to the men who offered their various services to battle in all fields. Thanks to the brave men who insured the high ability and the necessary needs of civil defense. Thanks to the popular forces which are the main support of our army. The Popular Army spread all over Iraq carrying out the tasks assigned to it with bravery and competence. Thanks to the brave Iraqi women who took part in the battle and who have been true sisters to the fighters and those working for the battle. Thanks to them when they raised their happy voices during the air raids, thus changing the battle into a wedding celebration.

Thanks to the children who enjoyed seeing the epics of the battle and the heroic deeds. In the near future, they will emulate their brothers, fathers and mothers. They will become great men and women on the path of principles and honor. Tomorrow we will fight with them on the Palestinian land and in the occupied Arab territories.

Thanks to the poets, the writers and the artists who gave their efforts in the battle. Their words and tunes had the power of firearms. Thanks to the honorable people in the Arab world who declared their stand by the side of their brothers who are liberating the land, thus opening the era of true liberation on the road to Palestine. Thanks to them because, despite the campaigns of obscurantism and disruption which were launched by some quarters, they know the ultimate pan-Arab truth. They know the road to liberation.

Thank God for granting us victory over the apostates, the grandsons of Khosrow and Rustam. Our road is still very long and the tasks which will face us tomorrow might not be less demanding than what we have already faced in confronting the racist Persian regime.

Thank God for making us successful in remembering a great and glorious chapter from the story of the battle of Al-Qadisiyah. Thank God, who supports us in our victorious march in order to liberate the occupied Arab territories, particularly dear Palestine. And blessings of God be upon you.

PRESIDENT TOURS BAGHDAD DURING IRANIAN AIR RAID

JN271240 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has toured several streets and residential areas in Baghdad during an air raid [no further information on this air raid is given] carried out by the planes of the racist Persian regime on residential areas, as is their custom.

His excellency's tour included a visit to a civil defense volunteers camp in As-Salihiyah and several residential houses in Baghdad.

During his tour of several streets in Baghdad, Field Marshal Saddam Husayn spoke to People's Army fighters and civil defense volunteers so as to acquaint himself with the high morale of the people's army fighters, the civil defense volunteers and citizens in general, who all asserted to his excellency that they are rejoicing over the victories of our brave army against the racist Persians.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 26-29 SEP

Communique No 35

JN261524 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1510 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Communique No 35 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Enemy planes have continued to attack our forces and Iraqi towns today. Our ground defenses intercepted them, inflicting the following losses:

1. One enemy plane was downed in Al-'Imarah.

2. Two enemy planes, one of them a helicopter, were downed on the frontline. This brings to 14 the number of planes downed up until this communique was prepared.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command on 26 September 1980.

Communique No 36

JN261546 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1535 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Communique No 36 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The enemy has not learned its lesson. The enemy has repeated his irrational and irresponsible acts in violation of international and humanitarian norms. The enemy resumed his raids on civilian targets and economic installations causing damages to them. In accordance with the principle of reciprocity, our planes raided the oil refinery in Tehran at 1600 today.

We repeat our warning to the enemy against repeating such acts.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1980.

Communique No 37

JN261622 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Communique No 37 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Subsequent to our Communique No 36 on the strafing of the oil refinery in Tehran by our planes, all our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1980.

Communique No 38

JN261826 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1817 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Communique No 38 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 26 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

At 0455 today, an enemy mine sweeper and a gunboat approached the head [ra's] of the Arab Gulf. Our naval units intercepted them, destroying and sinking them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 September 1980.

Communique No 39

JN271040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0943 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)--The valiant Iraqi forces have reached the approaches to Dezful and Ahvaz after liberating many villages and Iranian enemy positions. This came in Communique No 39 issued by the Armed Forces General Command a short while ago. The communique said that our forces have seized 40 tanks, several guns and transport vehicles, several arms depots and military equipment.

Communique No 39: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious armed forces continued their battles with the racist Persian enemy yesterday, scoring repeated victories and chasing the remnants of the enemy from one position to another. In the northern-eastern sector, the Khosravi--Qasr-e Shirin--(Sarbil)--Zohab road has been purged. All resistance on this road has been destroyed. Furthermore, enemy resistance between Sumar, Naft-e Shah and Emam Hasan was destroyed. In the central sector, our forces are now on the approaches to Dezful after gaining control over the Emamzadeh 'Abbas, (Al-Jananah) and (?Basatin) area.

In the southern sector, our victorious armies have continued their advance and are now on the approaches to Ahvaz, Susangerd and (Al-Khafajiyah) after gaining control over the area of Jofeyr and (Ash-Shaqliyan). Our brave eagles hit military targets deep in the enemy positions. The enemy suffered heavy losses in lives and equipment, as follows:

A. A total of 40 tanks, 4 106-mm guns, 2 guns of different types, 4 vehicles of various types, 1 181-mm mortar, 2 armored personnel carriers, 2 excavators, 2 M-48 tanks, 2 Centurion tanks, 8 medium machineguns, 16 rifles of various types, 2 130-mm guns, 4 radio sets, 1 field telephone and 1 antiaircraft machinegun were seized in the Khosravi sector. Furthermore, an enemy camp containing a large number of vehicles, military equipment, ammunition depots and a large quantity of equipment and medium and light weapons were seized.

B. The following have been destroyed: 63 tanks, 18 vehicles of various types, 4 armored personnel carriers, 9 self-propelled guns, 3 mechanized 106-mm guns, 2 81-mm mortars and 2 RPG-7 launchers.

One helicopter was downed and one enemy gunboat with its crew was sunk in Shatt al-'Arab in the area opposite Abadan.

C. Enemy losses in personnel were 80 killed and a large number of captives.

2. Our losses are: 16 martyred, 14 wounded, the destruction of 2 vehicles destroyed and 2 guns and 2 tanks damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 40

JN271111 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1052 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No. 40 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Despite the enemy's attempts to defend the areas it has occupied and has put under magian racist control, this was of no avail to the enemy before the strong will of our brave army's units. We bring the good tidings of victory to the sons of our great people.

This morning, the defenses of the racist Persian enemy in Al-Khafajiyah, which the enemy has unjustly and arrogantly named (?Susangerd), were destroyed. Most of the armor and vehicles of the enemy were captured. The Iraqi flag was hoisted over the city. Our units continue their advance toward their targets with the determination of our victorious ancestors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980

Communique No 41

JN271728 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1701 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No. 41 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September]

[Text] In tne name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Great Iraqi people, valiant Iraqi Army and noble Arab nation masses: Congratulations on your victories; congratulations on the victory of humble heroes, who believe in their people, over the conceited and unbelieving who do not love their peoples. Brothers: Do you know where your great army is now? It is now in Ahvaz. In the embrace of your Arab brothers from the clans of Ka'b, Tarf, Kinanah, Lam, Tamim, Malik, As-Suwari, As-Salamat, Al-Muhaysin, Sakhr, Al-Musawiyah and others. These clans are now under the protection of your army.

Thus, the Iraqi Army has blessed the Arabistan soil, and the Iraqi Army has been blessed by Arabistan's soil, history and martyrs. It is the horses and swords of Al-Qadisiyah and the spirit of message with all its significance--honor, human principles and noble national and pan-Arab values. Therefore, our valiant army has achieved the vital targets designated by the leadership. Its duty now is to consolidate this victory and to utilize the triumph, to destroy the remainder of the defeated remnants of the enemy army, to carry out the activities and to reach the objectives that are needed for this purpose.

Long live righteousness, long live the consciences, mentalities and arms that are championing righteousness. Long live the glorious Arab nation, long live the great Iraqi people and long live the valiant Iraqi Army, the apple of Iraq's and the Arab nation's eye. Long live the leader.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 42

JN271540 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1738 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No 42 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

1. At 1000 today, the Persian enemy opened fire with heavy artillery and rockets on our valiant units in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab sector. Our forces returned the fire, inflicting on them the following losses:

A. 80 enemy troops killed.
B. Two armored vehicles destroyed.
C. Two serviceable tanks captured.

2. Some enemy troops attempted to escape by using civilian clothes and vehicles. When our units discovered this, they opened fire on them, destroying two vehicles with their occupants.

3. The enemy used its air force against our units in Zayn al-Qaws. Two planes were shot down by our air defenses on the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 43

JN271808 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No 43 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our air force dealt painful blows to the Persian enemy today, inflicting the following grave losses on his airfields and military installations and columns:

1. The Sanandaj airport was hit.
2. The Ar-Rida'yah airport was hit.
3. The Shahrukh airport was hit.
4. Our air force destroyed several vehicles in the Dehloran area.
5. Our air force destroyed a column consisting of enemy armored and other vehicles in the southern section of the battlefield.
6. Our air force hit the oil depots in Masjed Soleyman town setting them afire. One helicopter was destroyed nearby.

All our planes returned safely to the homeland, with the exception of two planes. Their pilots were lost. We hold the Iranian side responsible for their safety.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 44

JN272125 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2052 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No 44 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our victorious armed forces today waged violent battles with the magian enemy forces all along the battle fronts. The racist forces attempted to halt the advance of our valiant forces, but all these attempts failed.

Our gallant forces fought bravely in these fierce battles. Our forces killed many enemy troops and destroyed several pieces of enemy equipment. The remnants of the enemy forces were forced to retreat disgraced and demoralized. The Persian enemy sustained the following losses:

1. Losses in equipment:

   A. 4 175-mm self-propelled artillery pieces
   B. 2 106-mm mechanized artillery pieces.
   C. 5 vehicles of various types.
   D. 40 rifles.
   E. The naval base in Al-Muhammarah was completely destroyed.

2. Enemy equipment captured:

   A. 30 serviceable tanks.
   B. 2 armored personnel carriers.
   C. 5 vehicles of various types.
   D. 2 106-mm mechanized artillery.
   E. Large quantities of radio sets and telephone receivers.
   F. 1 ammunition magazine.

3. The following enemy planes were shot down:

   A. 3 planes downed in northern area when they attempted to attack our units.
   B. 8 planes, including one helicopter, downed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. Losses in life:

   A. 30 killed.
   B. Several prisoners.

Our losses:

   A. 26 wounded.
   B. 9 martyrs.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 45

JN272126 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2055 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Communique No 45 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 27 September 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Our enemies raided Baghdad twice, but these raids were not reported by us then for special considerations related to the procedural tactics of the political and military aspects of the battle. Besides, an announcement of these raids at the time they occurred might have robbed us of the lessons which we gained from them.

Therefore, we announce to the Iraqi people and public opinion that today two raids took place on Baghdad: one at 1255 and the other at 1630. The raids were aimed against civilian and military targets. Our air defense confronted them. No material losses were inflicted.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 September 1980.

Communique No 46

GF280942 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0917 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Communique No 46 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 Sepgember 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. May you be blessed, O Army of Iraq. You are the nation's hope. Greetings to every single one of you fighters.

Through your crushing blows to the remnants of the defeated enemy, you confirm day after day your glorious victories over the racist magians who thought and dreamed that through their racism they would be able to confront the Army of Iraq's Ba'thism, which is now expressing the feelings of the nation through its glorious past and confirming that the shining future belongs to it.

The following was a battle of honor which our heroic forces fought against the enemy's forces desperately attempting to confront the sacred advance:

At 0830 today, 28 September 1980, our forces entered (Jelan) and raised the Iraqi flag over it. Our forces are now chasing the fleeing remnants of the enemy's defeated forces.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 September 1980.

Communique No 47

JN281123 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Communique No 47 issued by the General Command of the Armed Forces]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

After the fierce battles which took place on the night of 27-28 September 1980 between our valiant forces and the forces of the magian enemy on the Karkheh River near Dezful, in which various types of weapons were used, the enemy forces succumbed to the attacks of our heroic forces. They are now retreating under the fatal blows dealt by our brave army, which is continuing to destroy the enemy on the outskirts of Dezful prior to overrunning the city.

Our valiant army has inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, both in lives and equipment. We will provide you with the details later.

[Signed] The General Command of the Armed Forces, 28 September 1980.

Communique No 48

JN281358 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1341 GMT 28 Sep

[Communique No 48 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 28 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The magian enemy planes today raided civilian and military targets in a desperate attempt to offset the great losses inflicted by our valiant forces on the battlefield. Our ground defenses intercepted the enemy planes, forcing them to flee.

1. At 0605 today, enemy planes raided Mosul. One plane was shot down.

2. At 0160, at 1005 and at 1028 today, enemy planes raided civilian targets in As-Sulaymaniyah. One plane was shot down. Our losses: 17 civilians wounded and several civilian cars hit.

3. At 1035 today, enemy planes raided the military installations in Basra. We sustained no losses.

4. During the battles our ground forces waged against the Persian enemy on the outskirts of Dezful this morning, our field resistance shot down three enemy planes. Four planes were shot down yesterday afternoon in the southern sector of the front. This makes 9 the number of enemy planes shot down this morning and last night.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 September 1980.

Communique No 49

JN282005 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1954 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Communqiue No 49 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 28 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our planes dealt fatal blows to the enemy troops and airfields during the day today.

1. Bushehr base was hit. All planes on the ground were destroyed. Direct hits were scored on the base installations.

2. The enemy's concentrations, armored cars, vehicles, supply depots and radar station were hit in Dezful. Grave losses were inflicted on them.

3. Enemy's concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab were hit and destroyed.

4. Enemy units Dehloran were hit and heavily damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 September 1980.

Communique No 50

JN290900 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0842 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Communique No 50 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 29 September 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Our valiant army continues to score victories against the magian enemy forces, destroying them everywhere in the battlefield or when they take to their heels, as is their custom, abandoning their arms and equipment. Following are the losses sustained by the enemy yesterday, 28 September 1980:

1. Our forces seized a large quantity of arms and equipment left behind by the enemy on the Karun River bank. The enemy fled after retreating in the Ahvaz battles [leaving]:

A. A large quantity of artillery hardware loaded on vehicles.
B. A large number of personnel carriers and vehicles of various types.
C. Several serviceable tanks.

2. An air base containing a complete radar station fell into the hands of our forces in Dezful.

3. The following equipment was seized in separate battles:

A. 16 serviceable tanks.
B. Five serviceable self-propelled 175-mm guns.
C. 18 vehicles of various types.
D. Four Armored vehicles.
E. Six guns of various calibers.
F. A large number of light weapons and hardware.

4. The following was destroyed:

A. 10 tanks.
B. A munitions depot.
C. Several vehicles.

5. The enemy's losses in personnel:

A. 49 killed.
B. large number of captives.

Our losses were as follows:

A. The destruction of four vehicles.
B. The destruction of six mortars.
C. A total of 3 martyrs and 38 wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command on 29 September 1980.

INA: PLANES DESTROY IRANIAN 'SECRET AIRFIELD'

JN261452 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)--Iraqi planes have destroyed an Iranian secret airfield near Iraq's eastern border, setting a number of planes on fire on the ground.

This was announced by the staff lieutenant colonel in command of Kirkuk Air Base. He said the airfield was one of the important strategic Iranian military airfields used to strike at civilian targets in Kirkuk, Mosul and Irbil in northern Iraq.

In a statement to AL-JUMHURIYAH, the commander said that the Iraqi pilots discovered the airfield when they were chasing an Iranian planewhose pilot was forced to land at the secret airfield. Our pilots carried out their strikes, destroying it.

GROUND FORCES CONTINUE TO ADVANCE INTO IRANIAN TERRITORY

Surrender of Iranian Units

JN262108 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Qasr-e Shirin, 26 Sep (INA)--Hundreds of defeated Iranian officers and soldiers have surrendered to advancing Iraqi military units in the Khanaqin central sector.

The INA team which had accompanied the Iraqi units in the storming of enemy positions and defeats forces interviewed a number of Iranian captives who were walking in columns with their hands above their heads.

Among the captives was 1st Lt Mas'ud Akbar, a company commander in the 81st Armored Division in Kermanshah Province, who surrendered with all his company personnel. He told the team that when they surrendered to the Iraqi Army, they did not expect to be treated with such kindness.

Another Iranian prisoner, Navy Lieutenant (Outchi), a reconnaissance company commander in the 81st Division and resident of Tehran, said: We trust that the Iraqi forces, which seek to restore their lands, will help rescue Iran from Khomeyni's clique.

The team also attended the ceremony to hoist the Iraqi flag over the radio station and buildings of the two Iranian cities of Qasr-e Shirin and Khosravi after the Iraqi forces had entered them and proceeded further into Iran.

The team says that as soon as the Iraqi forces entered the two cities, they distributed foodstuffs to the inhabitants and treated their children with care and sympathy.

Slowdown in Southern Sector

NC271158 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 27 Sep 80

[By Jean-Francois Le Mounier]

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (AFP)--The Iraqi Army, apparently victorious in the northern and central Iranian sectors of Qasr-e Shirin and Mehran, seems to have run into trouble in the south near Iran's commercial port of Abadan, according to several Western diplomatic sources here.

Iraqi success in the more northerly regions concern only limited territorial objectives mainly in areas claimed by Iraq.

The press here today published photos showing Iraqi infantry advances of up to about ten km (six miles) into the Qasr-e Shirin and Mehran sectors.

But the fiercest fighting is in Abadan according to certain information obtained despite the extreme discretion being maintained by the Iraqis on the progress of their military operations, other than that given in official Iraqi communiques which is regarded by many observers as being over optimistic.

Oil installations at Abadan in Iran and at Basra in Iraq have been hit and are in flames.

The Iranian Air Force is still operational as shown by a pre-dawn air raid warning here today followed by a second alert.

These attacks appear to have hit hard at oil installations in northern Iraq, some observers said. Among targets here the large oil centre of Kirkuk was attacked from the air three times yesterday and it was widely believed here that the installations must have been damaged.

Meanwhile, unconfirmed sources indicated that Iraqi oil continues to flow in the pipeline across Syria to the Mediterranean.

Accounts by several foreign residents indicate that Iranian bombers have been very accurate in their attacks. The cement works at Mosul in north Iraq has reportedly been hit but the town centre was spared, with most planes apparently saving their bombs for strategic targets in the outskirts.

Iraqi planes have not been sighted over Baghdad and it is difficult for journalists to gain an idea of how Iraq is replying to the attacks. Only press photos today of blazing oil installations confirm the extent of the conflict.

One Iraqi paper today carried the headline "Fires in Abadan Light up the Shatt al-'Arab River."

However, there is a general feeling here that the Iraqi advance on Abadan has slowed and officials no longer refer to "the town's encirclement."

But Iraqi communiques maintain that Iraqi troops have reached Ahvaz about 100 km (63 miles) north of Abadan in the direction of Tehran.

Correspondent's View of Front

LD290902 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Text] Iran-Iraq: After a week of fighting and despite calls for negotiations, the war continues. On the ground the Iraqis are firmly holding their positions. (Christian Billmann), France-Inter's special correspondent, has just succeeded in crossing the border. He is presently in Iran, in the territory held by the Iraqi Army. He is the only broadcast journalist at this hot spot. Here is his report:

[(Billmann)] I entered Iran yesterday. The town to which I went with the Iraqi Army is called Marand. It is located 13 km from the border on a plateau which dominates the Iraqi plain. It is a strategic intersection which controls the entire road which on the Iranian side runs along the crests. Marand was a town of 25,000 inhabitants of whom about 10,000 remain today--a desert bearing traces of a precipitate withdrawal. In the environs of the little square, still decorated with slogans hailing Khomeyni, stalls are overturned and trees and houses bear the marks of sporadic shelling. There was no violent fighting. Resistance, here at any rate, was not very strong.

On our way here, we saw only two wrecked Iranian towns. It is obvious that in this zone the Iraqis are on top of the situation, while the last Iraqi town which we passed through, Badrah, is bursting with men and equipment. Iranian air attacks have caused considerable but localized damage.

Here we have the impression of an Iraqi Army which is advancing slowly along a closed front, sure of its supremacy, and seeking especially to establish positions which will compel Iran to negotiate and possibly make a withdrawal.

PRESIDENT WELCOMES PAKISTANI PRESIDENT'S GOOD OFFICES

JN271854 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1846 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has expressed his welcome of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's visit to Iraq to use his good offices to solve the existing conflict between Iraq and Iran through peaceful means.

This came during a telephone conversation held by the Pakistani president with President Saddam Husayn last night in which he expressed the desire to visit Iraq to use these good offices.

President Saddam Husayn welcomed the Pakistani president's initiative and welcomed him as a guest of the Iraqi people and government. He assured the Pakistani president that Iraq, which fully adheres to the principles of independence and nonalignment, will not be dragged into aggression against the rights of others and that Iraq had been forced to fight for the sake of peace.

The president added that fighting has not been an Iraqi choice; rather, it was imposed and we accepted the confrontation since the Iranian Government had gone too far in disavowing Iraq's legitimate rights over its lands and waters. The Iranian Government has practiced against Iraq all forms of aggression and carried out military attacks on our border and waters. We resorted to this confrontation after the Iranian forces attacked peaceful Iraqi cities with heavy guns, compelling Iraq to defend its sovereignty and honor and to force the aggressors to respect our sovereignty and rights.

In his conversation with President Ziaul Haq, President Saddam Husayn said that Iran has in past eras and for several centuries unilaterally abrogated border agreements with Iraq. Time and again, Iran has expanded at the expense of Iraqi territories and vital interests.

President Saddam Husayn asserted to President Ziaul Haq that Iraq, from a position of strength and capability, welcomes his generous initiative and encourages every peaceful initiative by international organizations to which Iraq belongs as well as by regional organizations and friendly countries.

TARIQ 'AZIZ HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN 26 SEP

JN262012 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1823 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Press conference held by Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz in Amman on 26 September--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Question] What is the Arab position on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict?

[Answer] In liberating our usurped territories, we have had faith that the Arab nation and Arab masses would side with us because the masses must side with the battle of righteousness and liberation.

Some brothers side with us in the brave and pan-Arab stand. At the beginning of my conference, I did mention His Majesty King Husayn's stand and that of fraternal Jordan, for which we are proud. As for those who have not yet declared their positions, their is their own business. We will not say one word about that and we will leave it for the Arab people in this state or that to adopt the appropriate stand toward those who do not declare their position toward this just and honorable battle.

[Question] Your Excellency: Reports today say that some Western countries are thinking of forming a naval force to defend the gulf area. What will Iraq's position be if this force is actually formed?

[Answer] Iraq categorically rejects any kind of foreign intervention in the Arab Gulf area. This has been Iraq's position for several years and it continues to be the same for the time being. We will confront any attempt to internationalize the gulf area. It is regrettable that one of the littoral countries, namely Iran, is not acting in a responsible manner. But the other states are acting in a responsible manner and they are capable of defending the international interests in the gulf. We hope that foreign forces will not intervene in this area.

[Question] Do you believe that the scope of military operations will expand to include other gulf states, and what would happen in this case?

[Answer] I cannot predict. As far as we are concerned, we have no intentions in this regard. But if the Iranian authorities want to expand the scope of conflict to cover other countries, we would adopt an appropriate position toward this development.

[Question] Iran has threatened to use force against the gulf states if the latter support Iraq. What will be the Iraqi stand to face this situation?

[Answer] Iraq has defended its national soil when it was threatened. Iraq will also defend every inch of Arab soil if one inch of Arab territory is threatened.

[Question] Sir, what are Iraq's conditions to stop the war and to restore understanding with Iran should the latter accede to these conditions?

[Answer] Actually, Iraq has not set any conditions because Iraq does not want to force anything on the other side. Iraq has demands and principles. Iraq says: We ask Iran to respect our right to sovereignty over our lands and waters. This sovereignty is established and recognized in international agreements. We are not inventing now any new formula for the land and sea borders. The land and sea borders are confirmed by international agreements. We ask the Iranians to respect our right to sovereignty over these borders, to have good neighbor relations with us, not to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq and those of the Arab Gulf area, and to end the Iranian occupation of the Arab islands in the gulf. All these are just and legitimate rights. We hope that there will be a responsible government in Iran, a government that will love peace and goodness in this area, a government that will accept these principles and behave accordingly. Only then will the area live in peace and all current disputes end.

[Question] What is the Iraqi Government's stance on the present meetings at the UN headquarters in New York and will the Iraqi Government officially request a Security Council meeting?

[Answer] No, the Iraqi Government has not called for a meeting of the Security Council. However, we respect the world's concern over the developments in the area because it is the world's right to show concern over the situation since this is a very sensitive area and any dispute would certainly affect the world's interests. We highly appreciate the various states' concern and respect any initiative coming from responsible and friendly parties to solve the current problems on the basis of the principles which I pointed out.

[Question] Mr Tariq, as for the Arabistan area, what if these areas are liberated? Is Iraq thinking of any special formula for these areas if they are completely liberated and controlled by the Iraqi forces, particularly since these areas were excluded from the 1975 agreement?

[Answer] No. Iraq's goals were made clear by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn in his 17 September speech. The president then said that Iraq has no designs on a single inch of Iranian soil. I also repeated that we respect the Iranian peoples' will. The Iranian peoples themselves determine the future of any part of Iran or entire Iran. We will not interfere.

[Question] What about the outcome of your visits to Moscow and Paris?

[Answer] The outcome of the talks were good. We are bound to these countries by relations of friendship and cooperation. According to the traditions of these relations we exchange views and consult with each other on issues of the common interest and other international affairs.

[Question] How would you evaluate the stands of the Soviets and the Americans on the conflict?

[Answer] We do not equate the two stands. Each state has its own stand and policy. The Soviet Union is a friendly state to which we are bound by a friendship and cooperation treaty. We have regular relations with this state. We do not have relations with the United States. On the contrary, we consider it a hostile state because it stands at the side of the Zionist enemy. However, we call on all foreign states not to interfere in the gulf area, be it Russia, the United States or any other state. We call on all states not to interfere in the gulf area.

[Question] Mr Tariq, do you believe that there is any possibility of one of the superpowers interfering in favor of any of warring parties?

[Answer] As for us, we guarantee that no one will interfere in our favor. But the other side [laughs]--I cannot make accusations.

[Question] What if such interference occurs?

[Answer] We will fight. We are defending our land, sovereignty and integrity. If the state that wants to fight us is small, we will fight it, and if the state that wants to fight us is a superpower, we will also fight it. This is our fate.

[Question] Will the war last long?

[Answer] As for us, we really don't want the battles to last long. We do not have any interest in prolonging the fighting because we have no such goals. As I said before, we do not have any goals or designs on Iran, therefore, we hope that the fighting will stop as soon as possible provided that the Iranians respect our rights and sovereignty over our territories and waters. Thank you.

OIL MINISTER COMMENTS ON OPEC, SAUDI RELATIONS

LD261631 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 26 Sep 80 pp 23, 24

[Interview granted by Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim to Sulayman al-Farzali and Muhammad Sa'id al-Junaydi in Vienna--date not given]

[Text] The current border clashes between Iraq and Iran reflected on the OPEC conference in Vienna, where political polarization was evident. AL-HAWADITH held an exclusive interview with Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim in the Viennese capital which, in addition to the question of oil, dealt with the political sensitivities that contributed to the tension during the conference meetings.

AL-HAWADITH asked the Iraqi minister if there were any attempts to undermine the OPEC summit scheduled to be held in Baghdad in early November. He said:

The fact is that there were attempts by one country or more to prevent the holding of the conference in Baghdad. These were preceded by other attempts in Algiers for reasons well known to us and to the country concerned. Unfortunately, some of the brothers supported its destructive attitude, but the attempts failed because the majority were in favor of holding the conference in Baghdad on the 20th anniversary of OPEC.

AL-HAWADITH: What is the aim of the country in question in impeding the holding of the conference in Baghdad?

'Abd al-Karim: For political reasons they do not want Iraq to host the conference.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you mean to say that politics rather than the basic interests of the organization played the decisive role at the conference?

'Abd al-Karim: Of course. God save us from politics (he said jokingly). Political motives were very clear at the conference from the first meeting. It was clear that there were attempts to prevent Iraq from having a voice in this international forum, but the attempts of the country in question were minor compared to the role Iraq is playing and will play in the future.

AL-HAWADITH: Probably this is the reason for the belief that the conference did not concentrate on discussing the topics on the agenda. Did Iraq make any specific concessions in order to have the summit held in Baghdad?

'Abd al-Karim: We do not compromise over principles and established rules, but should a situation call for tactical political flexibility or for flexibility necessary for reaching a collective stand, then we would accept that. As for compromise on principles, the answer is no. Furthermore, what do we want from the conference and what do we want to achieve? We are going to discuss the interests of the organization and the Third World countries as well as internatioal relations between OPEC countries and the industrialized states; in other words, stability and dealings based on mutual respect. We have nothing special in Iraq that we want to achieve at the coming summit.

AL-HAWADITH: There are some who say that Iraq is aspiring to lead the Arab world, and for this reason there is opposition to holding the conference in Baghdad.

'Abd al-Karim: I would like to remind you of the phrase that President Saddam Husayn repeats on every occasion this question is raised: "We are a sword among swords." We wish every Arab country to play a leading role. On its part Iraq is aspiring to have a leading role in the question of Arab struggle. This is not for the purpose of political outbidding. What we are aspiring to is that Iraq should play a leading role for the sake of Arab interests.

AL-HAWADITH: Does this explanation apply to your relations with Saudi Arabia?

'Abd al-Karim: It is not a question of leadership as much as it is of preserving the unity of Arab ranks and preventing deterioration and collapse and, consequently, of strengthening steadfastness and defense against dangers and designs against the Arab nation. It is, therefore, a question of facing this onslaught, strengthening steadfastness and developing it into an offensive attitude for the sake of restoring the legitimate Arab right.

AL-HAWADITH: You said that you did not wish to name the state that was behind the attempt to undermine the conference. It is no secret that disputes between Iraq and Iran have reached the point of armed clash. Does this mean that Iran is the state in question?

'Abd al-Karim: Of course, Iran was behind this campaign and the frenzied statements in this regard are well-known. Iran is hostile to the Arabs and to Arab rights in the gulf area.

AL-HAWADITH: Can we elaborate on this point? Some of the Arab delegation heads whom we met said that the Iraqi-Saudi alliance has an Arab image but in fact serves the interests of the oil-importing countries. The conference has come out with less than the minimum agreement on the agenda of the proposed coming conference.

'Abd al-Karim: Iraq and Saudi Arabia are the two biggest Arab countries as far as population and economic resources are concerned, and in regard to their influence on other Arab countries. We do not deny the influence of Saudi Arabia on the rest of the gulf countries in particular. We as a gulf country see that cooperation with Saudi Arabia is cooperation with all the gulf states. We have sought to get together with Saudi Arabia in order to adopt an Arab stand. While we coordinate with Saudi Arabia we maintain contacts with the rest of the sisterly Arab states. [paragraph continues]

But the urgent problem facing us now is to boycott the countries that recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the Zionist entity. I say that this is an urgent question facing the oil countries because these countries are capable of adopting a firm attitude. Oil is an effective weapon; it is a matter of life and death for the industrialized states. The Iraqi-Saudi agreement has a decisive effect on the question of economic boycott.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you have a ready plan? The history of boycotts has proved that it is difficult to effect a boycott against one or two countries, for this or that country can buy oil from the markets in the well-known mammer. There are many devious ways in the market by which oil can be obtained and there are brothers of various nationalities as well as some Arab collusion in certain cases. How can the boycott be implemented if there is a surplus in the market, for example?

'Abd al-Karim: You experienced the Ramadan war in 1973. Although the ban on oil which the Arab countries imposed was partial, it almost changed the political map. It led to the European countries' adopting a neutral stand in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Yes, we do have a detailed plan to ensure cutting off oil supplies to the countries that recognize Jerusalem as the capitalist of the Zionist entity, and we may submit them at the coming meetings.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us go back to the oil situation within the conference framework. The reports say that the Saudi and Iraqi oil production is much higher than it should be and that it is deliberate and, therefore, has given the oil companies and the industrailized states the opportunity to interfere in the policies of the oil countries themselves.

'Abd al-Karim: The question is: Is there a surplus in the markets at present? The answer is: Yes, there is a surplus, whether it is fabricated or natural, either because of the stockpiling by certain countries, or because of the multiplicity of prices, or because of instability in the area, or because of economizing. We in fact did not increase our production. In fact, the level of Iraqi production is not proportionate to Iraq's ability to invest revenues, which go beyond the quota that was allocated to us. We have the ability to absorb through the development plan. Added to this, one of the reasons that led Iraq to increase it production is its financial commitments to the Third World countries as well as its own needs. Following the emergence of the spot market most of the oil-producing countries and all those who allege that Saudi Arabia and Iraq are behind the present glut, particularly Iran, sold oil in the spot market. In view of our responsibility as a leading country in the nonaligned states and as a developing country, we felt our responsibility to the Third World countries. We have increased the proportion of our contracts by more than 30 percent. These contracts are with the Third World countries. We absolutely did not sell oil in the spot market. There is a surplus in the market but not because of Iraqi production. Saudi Arabia may be producing more than it needs, but everybody is producing more than they need. Iraq was the first to care for the need to reprogram or organize production or to resort to the emergency plan in order to remove the surplus. Iraq is willing to reconsider its production, but this calls for a plan of action by all the countries concerned.

AL-HAWADITH: Can the minister explain to us what were the common denominators that were agreed upon at the conference and what are the points of differences?

'Abd al-Karim: In fact the points of difference were the question of the strategic committee related to the pricing policy, as there are no differences over the need to preserve the purchasing power of oil revenues against erosion because of inflation and the drop in the dollar rate. The point of difference was how to calculate the cost of alternatives in the long term. We have proposed three factors: First, how to preserve the purchasing power; second, how to automatically add the rates of inflation and the losses resulting from the drop of the dollar rate, and; third, to increase the rates of growth every term or half yearly so as to encourage the industrialized states to speed up finding alternative energy sources. The dispute here was over what growth rate to calculate--the growth rate in the industrialized countries or in the Third World countries. There are 10 countries that call for calculating the growth rate in the industrialized states so as to add it to the oil price increase plus the rate of inflation and the drop in the dollar rate. As for the remaining three countries, they object to this, saying that we must take into consideration the growth rate in the oil-producing countries. Iran wants a 10 percent increase while Libya wants 20 percent. We found that this was not logical as long as we are talking about dialogue with the industrialized countries. We are not totally isolated from the world. Adopting a hard line in this case would abort the dialogue, with whatever results it may lead to.

But on the other hand, we discussed the question of the current prices and surplus in the market as well as other current problems. But yesterday we agreed on prices, and I hope that the coming conference will be able to reconsider the different viewpoints. We have, of course, agreed that Saudi Arabia increase its prices by $2 per barrel in return for the others freezing their prices until the next meeting.

AL-HAWADITH: What is the effect of Saudi Arabia's increase of its oil prices by $2 first on the world market and, second, on OPEC countries?

'Abd al-Karim: In fact this step will lead to stabilizing the market. The absence of a unified price confuses the market and is harmful to both producers and consumers. For example, when I exploit the situation and sell my oil in the spot market the result will be a surplus in the market. Therefore, the country that increases its price to $37 will have to drop it to $27. So, in order to preserve the prices structure and the unity and solidarity of the organization as well as to give the buyer some sort of assurance so that he will not resort to strategic stockpiling or to speculation in the oil market, oil must not be sold in the spot market.

AL-HAWADITH: Can it be said that the stability you are trying to achieve will not help the citizen in the industrialized states, since the major companies have never once reduced their prices since 1974. They are continuously blaming OPEC countries and the Arab countries in particular.

'Abd al-Karim: Of course, there are the problems of speculation that are caused by the presence of the middleman. The ideal solution as we see it is to establish direct relations between the producer and the consumer; that is to do away with the middleman and the parasite. The only way to establish strong, firm and continuing relations is to control this wealth.

AL-HAWADITH: It is being said that Saudi Arabia's policy regarding production volume is as follows: When the market is strong it increases it production in order to control the prices and when the market is weak it reduces production instead of reducing prices or giving deductions to consumers. The Saudis did not present themselves as an effective power in the market but as business managers whose interests lie in a guaranteed market and stable prices. Was this the strategy that was submitted to the conference and was approved by Iraq?

'Abd al-Karim: In fact I do not wish to interfere in the affairs of a sovereign and sisterly state with which we have fraternal and friendly relations. But Saudi Arabia as a major producing country is influential in the market, particularly if the "buyers' market"--as we call it--is unstable. However, it is no longer a major or a small country which has a decisive role in the prices structure or the condition of the world oil market. What decides this is supply and demand. What we agreed upon is not what you said. We agreed that the minimum oil price index be $30. In Algiers we agreed that the maximum price be $32 while we left the minimum undecided, in which case Saudi Arabia kept its prices at $28. When Saudi Arabia now increases its price by $2, it will be taking a complementary step to the Algiers Agreement, that is, toward the unification of prices. Now the oil index has a floor and a ceiling. We hope that at the coming meeting Saudi Arabia will increase its price to $32 so that the oil price index will be fixed with no floor or ceiling. As for the excess production, this was discussed at the recent meeting on the grounds that every country reduce its production by 10 percent. [Saudi Petroleum and Ministerals Affairs Minister] Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani was not present, and his deputy said that he has no authority to discuss this subject. Iraq prefers that the countries should stick to the proportions system, because certain countries might need to increase and not to decrease their production, such as Gabon, Ecuador and Nigeria. We will not reduce our production by less than 10 percent, nor will Saudi Arabia.

AL-HAWADITH: You said that Nigeria, as a small state, needs to increase production. The Nigerian Minister (Yahya Diko) told us that he submitted to the conference a plan to compensate the producing countries which will be affected by decreasing oil production if a collective decision is reached on reduction.

'Abd al-Karim: It is part of the strategy to establish a fund to help the OPEC countries that might suffer. This applies to every oil country in the organization that might face this problem.

AL-HAWADITH: Does this include Iran?

'Abd al-Karim: Yes, provided it respects OPEC resolutions.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us go back to the question of giving aid to Third World countries. For example, Algeria believes that giving vast aid to the developing countries in the final analysis means boosting the capabilities of these countries to import from the industrialized countries and, consequently, would enable these countries to maintain their present rate of growth and solve their present problems, which means that the Algerians accuse the project of being the invention of the industrialized states.

'Abd al-Karim: The problem now is that the industrialized countries have not reached the level of the developing countries in giving aid. Also, they did not abide by the UN resolution that aid should be at the rate of 0.7 percent. We give aid to the Third World countries at the rate of 5 percent. During the first half of this year, Iraq gave aid totaling 7 percent of its income while the industrialized countries gave only 0.3 percent of their income. Up to the beginning of this month, Iraq gave aid totalling $2.2 billion.

AL-HAWADITH: The Arab countries that have no oil accuse their sisterly oil-producing countries of being responsible for inflation in their countries. Why does not the Organization of Arab Oil Exporting Countries [OAPEC] establish a fund for investment in the Arab countries instead of the existing aid funds?

'Abd al-Karim: I would like to say that oil is not alone responsible for inflation. If we take the rates of inflation we find that oil constitutes no more than 3 to 4 percent of the cost of a commodity. Also the rate at which price increases contribute to inflation is 1 to 2 percent. Nevertheless, Iraq has asked for a summit economic conference to discuss the subject of a formula for investments to help the poor Arab countries that have no oil, and we have a detailed plan for this. The coming conference in Amman was supposed to be an exclusively economic conference, but now it is going to be an economic-political conference. Iraq put this plan to the ministerial conference held in Amman 2 months ago preparatory to the summit.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that in the coming stage, that will follow the prices stage, the oil-producing countries will be placed on the threshold of a qualitative turning point at which they will no longer be mere oil sellers but partners in the oil industry?

'Abd al-Karim: Why partners? Our policy now is not to stop at the limit of being a raw material exporting country. OPEC conference has before it more than one Iraqi working paper which aims at taking away the refining and petrochemical industry from the industrialized states. Transfer of technology from the industrialized countries means the processing of raw material that we have, foremost of which is oil. The most dangerous thing is to allow the foreign companies to enter into partnership with us. When we throw the companies through the door we do not want them to come back through the window. We are lacking technological knowhow but we are capable of buying it.

AL-HAWADITH: How long would you imagine your cooperation with Saudi Arabia will last? There is a contradiction in the background on the basis of which this cooperation is based, and the history of Arab agreements is equal to that of their disagreements, particularly since, as you said, there are some people who are trying to strike at them.

'Abd al-Karim: Our relations with the sisterly and friendly countries do not mean identity of views in all stands. What we agree on is considered the minimum agreement, which at the same time we try to expand and deepen.

BAGHDAD SAYS AHVAZ TRANSMISSIONS FAKE; STATION SEIZED

JN281456 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1425 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Station comment]

[Text] The Iranian regime continues its pomposity, deception and concealing of its defeats in order to avoid the Iranian peoples' rancor and wrath. Since this morning the regime has been exploiting its capabilities and know-how in carrying out deception. This regime has used one of its many radio frequencies which carry Tehran radio transmissions and started broadcasting music in the name of Ahvaz radio. The regime is using this deceptive attempt, now exposed, to make the Iranian people believe that Ahvaz is still resisting. [Words indistinct], to use this misleading method and broadcast appeals and news and to attribute them to any station, they went through the small low-cost relay transmitters which are available in many world markets.

However, the Khomeyni station is broadcasting only music and has not presented any special programs except those (?relayed) by the Tehran radio station. Even children cannot be deceived by this Persian trick. This station, which exists only in Khomeyni's imagination, fell yesterday into the hands of the Iraqi forces, and the Iraqi flag was raised high over it, portending a new bright future for our Arab people in Ahvaz.

Despite Khomeyni's misleading attempts and his strenuous efforts to conceal his defeats, we are confident that the Iranian peoples will realize the truth and be capable of discovering it.

INA REPORTS ON ARABISTAN LIBERATION FRONT COMMUNIQUE

JN281650 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Ahvaz, 28 Sep (INA)--Groups of youths belonging to the Arabistan Liberation Front [Jabhat at-Tahrir al-'Arabistaniyah] have carried out attacks against Persian army concentrations, killing or wounding a number of soldiers and inflicting heavy material losses in military equipment. The groups returned safely to base. This was stated in a communique issued by the front here today. The communique said that last Thursday these groups attacked a Persian army camp in Al-Hamidiyah with rockets and mortars. In the attack one tank was demobilized and set on fire. Big fires also broke out in the camp.

Other groups planted a timed explosive charge the same day at a gas company near Ahvaz. The charge went off causing heavy damage.

A third group attacked an Iranian Army camp in the Al-Khaffajiyan area with rockets and mortars. Five racist Persians were killed and several others wounded in the attack.

The statement points out that an Arabistan youth group, pursuing the Iranian forces defeated by the Iraqi Army's blows, clashed with a military unit, attacking it with rockets. The group killed or wounded several members of this unit. The Arabistan group also intercepted a retreating Iranian force, inflicting heavy losses on it. It destroyed and wounded a number of soldiers.

HUSAYN CONTACTS SIX ARAB LEADERS ON IRAQI-IRANIAN CRISIS

JN261824 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn today held telephone contacts with his brother leaders of the Arab states. His majesty contacted His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia; Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah; UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan; Amir of Qater His Highness Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani, Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah and YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

His Majesty King Husayn's contacts with his brother Arab leaders concentrated on the current events involving Iraq and Iran and the need to adopt a unified Arab stand at the side of the legitimate Iraqi and Arab rights.

His majesty also exchanged views with the Arab leaders on the steps that should be adopted to guarantee the supreme Arab interest and the establishment of relations in this region on just, balanced and sound bases.

KING HUSAYN, SADDAM HUSAYN EXCHANGE PHONE CALLS 27 SEP

JN272004 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Saddam Husayn today exchanged telephone calls. This morning his majesty the king called his excellency the Iraqi president to assure himself of the situation from various aspects and to convey the Jordanian people's national feelings of solidarity with the fraternal Iraqi people.

This evening President Saddam Husayn called his majesty the king and assured him that the Iraqi stand in defense of its rights and territories against the Iranian ambitions is healthy. He also assured his majesty the king of Iraq's determination to extend its full sovereignty over its territories and waters and to preserve its national Arab integrity.

PRESIDENT ZIAUL HAQ, HABIB CHATTI ARRIVE IN AMMAN 28 SEP

JN281819 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Pakistani President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, arrived in Amman this evening on a short visit to Jordan. They will then leave for Iraq in an effort to use their good offices to find a settlement to the current conflict between Iraq and Iran.

They were received at the airport by His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the minister of court, the army chief of staff and the Pakistani and Iraqi ambassadors in Amman.

MINISTRY OFFICIAL MEETS WITH IRAQI CHARGE D'AFFAIRES

NC271739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Kasrawan Labaki met today with the charge d'affaires of the Iraqi Embassy in Lebanon, Nizar an-Naqib. After the meeting an-Naqib said: I briefed the Foreign Ministry secretary general on the battles taking place on the Iranian-Iraqi borders, which constitute the eastern wing of the Arab homeland. I explained to him that the Iranian Air Force is bombing residential quarters.

Asked whether there is anything new with regard to the pumping of Iraqi oil to Lebanon, the Iraqi charge d'affaires said: It is up to Secretary General Labaki to answer this question.

Asked about the Iraqi conditions for the cessation of the battles and Baghdad's attitude toward mediation, the Iraqi charge d'affaires said: The Iraqi conditions are clear. They call for withdrawal and recognition of the boundaries and noninterference in internal affairs. He added: Iraq does not oppose any mediation on any international level. Iraq has accepted the good offices of the Pakistani president and the UN secretary general. The main thing is for Iran to recognize Iraq's national rights and its full sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab and over its territory along the border, refrain from interfering in its internal affairs, and ensure security along the border.

IRANIAN GROUP SAYS IT ATTACKED U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIRUT

PA270122 Paris AFP in English 0113 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Beirut, 27 Sep (AFP)--An organization calling itself the Forces of Mojahedin last night (Friday) claimed a grenade attack earlier in the day on the American Embassy here.

In a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, a spokesman for the organization said the attack, which caused property damage but no injuries, was intended to "force American imperialism to raise its hand from the Islamic people of Iran."

He said the Forces of Mojahedin would strike American interests "everywhere in the Middle East, as long as this (anti-Iranian) policy of the United States continues."

One of the two rocket-propelled grenades fired at the embassy put a hole in a second floor wall, and the other broke through a bay window on the fourth floor. Both areas were unoccupied.

Beirut Radio Report

NC262116 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Two rockets were fired at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut this evening. Security patrols immediately set out to investigate the incident, the results of which were confined to some damage to the building.

VOL REPORTS PFLP TRAINING ELEMENTS TO STRIKE AT U.S.

NC281531 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] is training 60 elements of various nationalities in the Ad-Damur area in order to carry out strikes against U.S. interests in the Middle East. This network possesses modern weapons, including rockets.

SYRIA REOPENS OIL PIPELINE FROM IRAQ TO MEDITERRANEAN

NC271120 Paris AFP in English 1114 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Damascus, 27 Sep (AFP)--Syria today granted an Iraqi Government request to reopen the pipeline that crosses Syrian territory to the Mediterranean oil terminal of Tripoli in north Lebanon, and which has not been in operation since 1976. The Iraqi Government has thanked the Syrian Government for these renewed facilities and pumping will begin immediately, according to official sources here.

DAMASCUS RADIO REPORTS MOVEMENT OF U.S. AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

JN262155 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] The Arabian sea--The U.S. carrier Midway is to leave Kenya for the Arabian Sea tomorrow to reinforce the U.S. military presence in the Arab Gulf area where fighting is raging between Iraq and Iran. Reports say that there is another carrier named the Eisenhower that is now present in the area for the same reason.

Observers interpret the reinforcing of the U.S. military presence in the area as an attempt to defend U.S. interests in the area following the fall of the former shah. This has been made clear by Washington's attempts to enter into suspicious agreements with the ruling regimes of Somalia, Oman and Kenya.

PDRY CHAIRMAN MAKES DEPARTURE STATEMENT AFTER BRIEF VISIT

JN260952 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, left Damascus at midnight last night following a brief visit to Syria.

Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived at Damascus international airport at 2000 last night. He was received on arrival by President Hafiz al-Asad.

The two presidents, the prime minister, the ministers and the delegation accompanying 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left for the airport's hotel, where a meeting between the two presidents was held.

The discussions at the meeting dealt with fraternal relations between Syria and the PDRY and ways to promote them, and the situation on the border between Iraq and Iran and efforts aimed at stopping the fighting between the two countries. The talks also dealt with ways to consolidate the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. The importance of unity between fraternal Syria and Libya was affirmed.

Before leaving Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made the following statement: I would like to express my pleasure with the results of my meeting with brother President Hafiz al-Asad. This meeting is considered a continuation of our previous meetings, which took place for the exchange of opinions and coordination between the PDRY and the Syrian Arab Republic on issues of joint concern. We have fraternal and militant ties.

During our fraternal talks last night, we discussed with brother President Hafiz al-Asad the situation in the Arab region, including the situation in Lebanon, the African Horn and the Arabian Gulf. Our views were identical on the principles of confronting the events and developments occurring in the area in a manner beneficial to the prime interests of the Arab masses and on confronting the U.S. bases in Egypt, Somalia and Oman. In that respect, stress was placed on the importance of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and its unity and on cleaving with all the other progressive Arab forces to face the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary machinations. Also stressed was the importance of exerting more efforts to reunite our Yemeni homeland so that it can contribute to the struggle for achieving democratic pan-Arab unity, which is the hope of all the Arab masses from the ocean to the gulf. This issue was agreed upon with our Libyan brothers, led by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, during our visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

As we leave Syria for home, we feel great satisfaction concerning the fruitful results of our meeting with brother President Hafiz al-Asad and we express our deep appreciation for the progressive transformations achieved by the Syrian masses. We emphasize anew that our people, who share fraternal ties and militant, noble objectives with the Syrian masses, will always support steadfast Syria and the Palestinian revolution along with all other Arab powers opposed to imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

MINISTER TO DELIVER AL-ASAD MESSAGE TO KING KHALID

JN272328 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2315 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, will leave Damascus for At-Ta'if tomorrow morning [28 September] with a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to His Majesty King Khalid.

Minister Returns

JN282000 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' returned to Damascus this evening from At-Ta'if after delivering a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to His Majesty King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

BEGIN SAYS TRIPARTITE AUTONOMY MEETING SET FOR 14 OCT

TA281523 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] The prime minister has informed the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that a full autonomy meeting will take place on 14 October. Attending will be the Israeli, Egyptian and U.S. delegations. Begin noted that Israel would have preferred the talks to be held in the Middle East, but due to the mourning of the family of U.S. Ambassador James Leonard, the talks may take place in Washington.

The prime minister noted that the meeting in mid-October constitutes a full resumption of the [autonomy] talks, not a preparation for a summit meeting, as the Egyptians claimed. A discussion on a tripartite summit is not at all on the planned meeting's agenda.

BEGIN, KNESSET MEMBERS COMMENT ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR

TA281634 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin suggested today that predictions not be made on the results of the Iraq-Iran war and on its implications for Israel. Mr Begin was speaking at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee session and said Israel should keep an eye on the developments and cautiously consider its moves. Our Knesset correspondent, Moshe Hakohen, reports on the committee meeting:

[Begin recording] [Hakohen] According to the assessment voiced today at the session, Iraq's goals in its war with Iran are three-fold: achieving supremacy in the Persian Gulf area, overthrowing Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime and taking over the oil-rich Khuzestan region whose population is of Arab extraction. This will allow Iraq to have full control over the Shatt al-'Arab waterway, have easy access to the Persian Gulf and obtain a significant economic advantage, as the Khuzestan oil fields have a production potential of 5 million barrels a day.

According to assessments voiced at the committee, Iraq also carefully prepared its political offensive well and did so for many long months: It severed relations with the Soviet Union, which were on the decline following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan--and also improved its relations with Jordan and Saudi Arabia to guarantee itself Arab world backing.

The estimates the committee heard, based on information obtained so far from the scene of the action, were that Iraq currently has an advantage with respect to ground warfare, to which it funneled increased armored forces, even though its forces have encountered Iranian defense. On the other hand, Iran has a clear upper hand in the naval front due to the large number and sophistication of its naval vessels and the fact that its naval bases are far from the battlefield. In the air a tie seems to be seen with, perhaps a slight advantage to the Iranians--which is a surprise that somewhat upset the Iraqis' cards.

According to the views expressed at the committee today, it is still too early to predict how the war will end. In any event, some members of the committee raised proposals regarding possible Israeli initiatives. Me'ir 'Amit from the Alignment said that the Israeli dilemma is how to make the circle square, namely: to bring about the collapse of Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime on the one hand and an Iranian victory to prevent Iraqi strengthening on the other hand. 'Amit said that Israel should reconsider such initiatives.

MK Yehuda Ben-Me'ir from the NRP also mentioned initiatives in the direction of resuming ties with Iran. He said that Israel is a natural source for requests for aid from Iran as it could supply it with U.S.-made spare parts and other equipment used by the Iranian Army as well as the IDF.

On this issue of possible Israeli involvement, MK Yosef Rom from the Likud told us:

[Rom] The Israeli interest is, by coincidence, to ease the pressure on Israel and to guarantee Israel's security. Any action that would guarantee Israel's security would be positive, as far as Israel is concerned.

[Hakohen] Including selling arms to Iran?

[Rom] I did not say that. I do not know whether this is at issue, whether Khomeyni's regime is interested in this or not. Nor do we know what the developments inside Iran will be, what kind of regime will be there. I suggest not to predict what will happen.

[Hakohen] Other committee members maintained, on the other hand, that Israel had better stand aside and exploit the Iranian-Iraqi war for a propaganda offensive. This is what MK Abba Eban from the alignment said:

We should be most interested in demonstrating that if Israel ceased to exist, the Soviet Army would not leave Afghanistan, Khomeyni would not release the hostages, Iraq would not stop fighting against Iran, the price of oil would not go down even 1 cent. That is why it is necessary to explain the need to disconnect the Israeli issue from the superpowers' contention. [end recording]

SHAMIR COMMENTS ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR, TALKS WITH EGYPT

TA261622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that it is inconceivable that a world superpower such as the United States will not intervene in the Persian Gulf conflict. In his opinion the war between Iraq and Iran has eased international pressure on Israel. Before that war erupted, Egypt regarded the United Nations as a major means of pressure on Israel; now international attention has been attracted elsewhere.

On his talks with Butrus Ghali, Shamir said that an attempt was made to proceed in the negotiations and the two countries are interested in this. Minister Shamir spoke to our New York correspondent.

IDF INTELLIGENCE CHIEF ASSESSES IRANIAN-IRAQI WAR

TA261914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] The chief of the IDF Intelligence Branch, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, said today he believes the war between Iraq and Iran may be harmful to Israel in the long run: Iraqi hegemony over the Persian Gulf is dangerous for Israel and, according to the situation now, if no foreign element intervenes all signs indicate that the Iraqis are guaranteed an advantage. Their army is larger and more stable than the Iranian army and their sources of supply have not been hampered. An Iraqi success in the Persian Gulf will stabilize the Baghdad-Amman axis, in which case Iraq may be tempted to turn to a different front as well and the danger [to Israel] from the eastern front will be much more tangible. An Iraqi victory would also make the Persian Gulf more pro-Soviet.

ETHIOPIA

SUDANESE MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD281946 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Sep 80 EA

[Text] His excellency Lt Gen 'Izz ad-Din 'Ali Malik, chief of staff of the Sudanese armed forces, arrived in Addis Ababa this afternoon on a 5-day official and friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia, leading a high-level Sudanese military delegation. On arrival in Addis Ababa he was accorded a friendly welcome at Bole international airport by Comrade Brig Gen Merio Neguse, chief of staff of the armed forces and member of the COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia] Central Committee. Present at the welcoming ceremony were force commanders and members of the COPWE Central Committee; his excellency Mirghani Sulayman Khalil, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan to socialist Ethiopia; his excellency Col Faris 'Abdallah 'Uthman, military attache of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan to socialist Ethiopia; and military attaches from other countries.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR ON CONSTRUCTION AID

LD280900 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 80 EA

[Excerpt] An agreement was signed today between the governments of socialist Ethiopia and the USSR enabling Ethiopia to receive a loan of 12.3 million birr. This long-term loan will enable Ethiopia to acquire building equipment and vehicles for use in its building construction program. The loan agreement was made in accordance with the economic, scientific and technical cooperation agreement signed during the visit to the USSR by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of COPWE and commander in chief of the revolutionary army.

It has been learned that the agreement is the first part of the protocol agreement signed during the working visit to the USSR by Comrade Hadis Tedla, PMAC standing committee member, vice chairman of the Supreme Council of the national revolutionary development campaign and central planning commission, and executive committee member of COPWE, last April, enabling socialist Ethiopia to acquire aid and loans for construction and development projects. At the ceremony, held at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Urban Development Housing, general manager of the building construction authority Comrade Genre Admassu signed the agreement for socialist Ethiopia, and Comrade (D.E.M. Develov) of Technopromexport, signed for the USSR.

Under the agreement, most of the building equipment and vehicles to be bought with the loan money will be delivered to Ethiopia in 1981, and the remainder will be delivered in 1982. It was also disclosed that the USSR will provide nine experts and two interpreters to teach and train Ethiopians to use the purchased equipment and vehicles. During their tour of 6-15 months in Ethiopia they will be provided free housing, medical and other services. It was also disclosed that an Ethiopian delegation will pay a working visit to the USSR in a few months' time to put the agreement into effect.

SOMALIA

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS ETHIOPIAN AIR RAIDS

22 Sep Raid

LD231232 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 23 Sep 80 EA

[Text] A report receiv from the Defense Ministry today says that last night at 2240 Abyssinian military aircraft attacked some areas in the (Bakol) region of the Somali Democratic Republic. Two of the aircraft that violated the Somali airspace were MiG-(?23's). The enemy aircraft, which dropped various types of bombs, destroyed three buildings and caused other substantial damage in the district of (Iet). The report adds that the aircraft also violated the districts of Uegit and Oddur. [Words indistinct], which were bravely repulsed by units of the Somali Air defense force are in addition to the provocative attacks by the Abyssinian armed forces which started on 18 September in parts of Dolo district.

28 Sep Raid

LD290640 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 29 Sep 80 EA

[Text] A report we received from the Ministry of Defense last night said that Abyssinian aircraft had attacked the towns of El Berde and Scimbirole, in (Bakol) region, yesterday at 0830. During the attack, the enemy used napalm bombs and other dangerous weapons. The heinous attack by the enemy was countered bravely by the Somali air defense forces. We have not yet received any reports of casualties or damage done by the enemy. The attack by the enemy yesterday was part of the series of provocative attacks the Abyssinian regime has been perpetrating of late against the Somali Democratic Republic. These attacks only result in dismal failure for the enemy.

UGANDA

MUWANGA LEAVES FOR CUBA; VOTERS REGISTRATION DEFERRED

LD271952 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Kampala--The chairman of Uganda's ruling Military Commission, Ndugu Paulo Muwanga, has gone to Cuba today. Shortly before leaving, Ndugu Muwanga agreed with leaders of the country's four political parties and the electoral commission that the registration of voters will be put off for a week in order to resolve the dispute over the polls.

6 Oct Registration

LD261908 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Sep 80 EA

[Excerpts] The registration of voters will now take place on the 6th of October 1980, and registration officers and all officials connected with the exercise are hereby required to take note of this announcement and defer arrangements for the exercise.

ANGOLA

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY BECOMES EXECUTIVE ORGAN OF STATE

LD261202 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Sep 80 EA

[Text] The Central Committee of the MPLA--Workers Party has just approved a law which introduces major changes to the Angolan Constitution. According to this law, the People's Assembly becomes the supreme organ of state power. The People's Assembly, whose deputies must be elected this year, will replace the Council of the Revolution which has up to now been the executive organ in Angola. The changes to the constitution mean that the government will be subject to the guidelines laid down by the People's Assembly, to which it will be responsible.

The Council of the Revolution has also approved the electoral law defining the contents and mechanisms of the electoral process. The law notes that the People's Assembly and provincial assemblies will be elected every 3 years. The People's Assembly will have 206 deputies, and the provincial assemblies will have 55 to 85 deputies.

The law also establishes that all those over 18 years, regardless of color, race, sex, ethnic origin, profession, religion and social position, may vote or be elected to the Angolan People's Assembly and provincial assemblies. The same law also prescribes that all elements who at any time have been active members of the splinter groups and puppet organizations who cooperated with colonial suppression or participated in actions against state security or carried out acts of economic sabotage will not be allowed to vote or be elected.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA, HUNGARY'S LOSONCZI DISCUSS INCREASED COOPERATION

LD251406 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Sep 80 CA

[Text] President Kaunda and visiting Hungarian President Pal Losonczi held talks in Lusaka today aimed at expanding cooperation between the two countries. Speaking at State House before the opening of the official talks, President Kaunda said the existing relations between the two countries should be expanded and reach a level to cover all aspects of human endeavor. Dr Kaunda told his guest, who arrived today on a 2-day official visit to Zambia, that his visit is not a protocol one, as it strives to make Zambians and Hungarians understand each other better. Dr Kaunda said that bilateral relations will be warmer when the two countries begin to cooperate in political, economic, social, cultural, scientific, technological, defense and essential matters. The president noted with satisfaction that the two countries have a common approach to political problems which concern humanity all over the world.

In reply, President Losonczi, who is leading a 55-man delegation, expressed the hope that concrete steps would be taken to enhance cooperation between the two states at the end of his visit.

ZIMBABWE

NKOMO ECHOES MUGABE'S WARNING ON TROUBLEMAKERS

LD291006 Salesbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has once again warned troublemakers that his government will take strong measures against them. The prime minister told thousands of people at a rally in the eastern garrison city of Umtali yesterday that these measures will include the use of arms.

Speaking to a similar gathering in Bulawayo yesterday the minister of home affairs, Comrade Nkomo, echoed the prime minister's warning and concern on troublemakers. Comrade Nkomo said the country cannot be free if people are still afraid to move from one place of another. He said the evils of tribalism and racialism must come to an end.

GOVERNMENT DISARMING BUSHFIGHTERS IN GOROMONZI DISTRICT

LD271810 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Authorities in Zimbabwe have begun disarming former bushfighters based on farms in the Goromonzi district where a white farmer, Mr Chris Johnson, has been shot and killed. The white member of Parliament for the district, Mr Andre Holland, speaking to newsmen after meeting the prime minister, Mr Mugabe, said at least 800 of the more than 2,000 former guerrillas based on two farms in the Goromonzi area have already had their weapons taken away. Mr Holland said police were being called in to help with the disarmament of the rest.

Police would also help to move the guerrillas from the farms to a suburb of Salisbury where about 17,000 former bushfighters are to be settled.

MUGABE TRYING TO SPEED UP ARMY INTEGRATION

LD241122 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 23 Sep 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, told the Senate this afternoon that the government is considering ways of speeding up the integration of the armed forces in the regular army. Comrade Mugabe said the government's highest priority is still the consolidation of peace and the most important way of achieving this is by integrating the armed forces under a single commander. The prime minister disclosed that a new battalion is being formed every fortnight, but admitted that full integration will take longer than anticipated. He said because of this he is considering additional facilities to speed up integration.

Referring to the recent wave of violence, Comrade Mugabe said he had appealed to those concerned to prevent these incidents as the government cannot sit back, as riotous behavior and callous use of arms is creating grief among the people.